

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 03:28:21 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 00:39:35 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502092151.aa01254@jackatak.theporch.com>  
From: List Admin/Owner BoatAnchor Mail List <listown@jackatak.theporch.com>  
Subject: "Bumping Off the List" -- no one has been

Hi gang-

Eventually, I suspect everyone will get this post, and I apologize to all for the bandwidth and admin stuff where I would MUCH rather not insert it, but...

Bobbi echoed a sentiment I have noted lately: several people are concerned about having been "bumped" from the boatanchors list.

Well, \*NO ONE\* has been bumped...

What has happened is that Phil's system suffered a catastrophic failure of a 1GB hard drive... A replacement is on the way, and should be in place tomorrow, right after it arrives...

These hard drive failures took out the name server (the software that finds how to get mail to \*your\* system) and so MUCHO list mail is sitting in the queue, and the queue is growing like topsy! Phil and I are sorry for the bother, the inconvenience, and the anxiety, but REST ASSURED, we are suffering as much as you are (albeit differently! ;^)

Rest easy folks, the list will not bump anyone off without VERY good reason (like a report of an unknown user -- not everyone has the chance to unsubscribe before losing net access -- but most other failures are recoverable and result in the email being put in the deferred queue)

Sorry for the bandwidth, and rest assured, this was NOT staged, it is real, and not merely a plea for more contributions... ;^) ;^)

--  
73 DE Middle Tennessee -- 12 miles due South of Nashville!  
Jack, W4PPT/Mobile (75M SSB 2-letter WAS #1657/#1789 -- both all mobile! ;^)  
- - - BoatAnchor Mailing List Owner - - -  
listown@jackatak.theporch.com-"Plus ca change, plus c'est la meme chose"

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 05:27:30 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 10:20:26 -0600  
Message-Id: <199502081619.LAA04680@Shiva.COM>  
From: John Shriver <jas@shiva.com>  
Subject: 1625 blue glow

Blue glow at the glass tube envelope isn't gas. It's electrons that get through the plate exciting the electron shells in the glass. The glass itself is glowing.

Gas glow is more purple, and it's in the space between the cathode and plate. Gas is bad news.

Also, the gas doesn't seep in through the glass, tubes are quite hermetically sealed. The gas is gas that was occluded in the metal of the plate during manufacture. The plate is heated red-hot (by induction heating) while they pump the vacuum, to boil most of the gas out of it. Then flashing the getter gets the rest, and tries to keep getting it over time.

The plate materials for RF power tubes are chosen to be easier to get the gas out of (or not have much), since those plates run with color (unlike receiving tubes), which heat frees the remaining gas. For instance, graphite plates used for low gas and easy degassing, not for high dissipation per-se. Tantalum is used because it has a tendency to absorb, rather than release gas -- but it can't get very hot.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 11:03:07 1995

Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 06:12:14 -0600

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502100650.A2426-0100000@indy1>

From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indynet.indy.net>

Subject: Re: 1625 blue glow

Blue glow in tubes--the easy way to tell "glowing glass" from "glowing gas," is to look for sharply-defined edges. Glass 6L6s in some audio amps are a really good example: you'll see a series of very sharp "beams" fanning out from the holes in the plate structure and making very nice purple-blue rectangles on the envelope! A gassy tube has a more diffuse, almost foggy blob of blue glow, usually quite close to the elements. In mild cases, you'll only see it inside the plate.

The 20V3 produced a bit of glow in the modulators and PA, but it was hard to see--the bright glow of the filament and dull glow of the plate tended to obscure it (despite the difference in color!) and reflections from the 866s down on the PSU deck made it hard to be sure what you were seeing.

\*(Pat Finnegan claimed that meant you were getting some soft X-radiation as well, but I never verified it; though I \*have\* made very good radiographs using an old '01A, a spark coil, Polaroid B&W film and a scrap of aluminium foil! [See the Scientific American compilation of Mr. Stong's "Projects for the amateur scientist," but don't say you weren't warned!] So you might want to take care; they'll be "soft" and easily blocked 'til you get up to really high powers but it's still nothing to

ignore).

73,  
--Bobbi

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:15:26 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:53:11 -0600  
Message-Id: <43007@w5ddl.aara.org>  
From: n5off@w5ddl.aara.org  
Subject: 6 Mtr Comercial Gear

Oops that would be "commercial" gear.

I use a 100W GE Mastr base on 52.525. It has tube finals, and really gets into the cable, er, that is, it really gets out on 6 mtrs.

Best benefit, it holds up one end of the table which supports the R-390A, R-388, and ARR-15, as well as provides the B+ for the last rig mentioned.

If I ever got rid of it, I would have table support and B+ problems, so, who else has a table leg that occasionally spouts DX?

73 de tom

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:10:10 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:48:37 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502081631.AA23630@csrvcs1.triad.com>  
From: bwb%csrvcs1.triad.com%triada.triad.com@triada.triad.com (Bruce Bacon)  
Subject: A BA Weekend Part Duece

Greetings all,

Thanks to all for the inquiries regarding the BA gear. The McKay Dymek DR22, the HQ120 and the R388 are now spoken for.

Still looking for the HQ180 manual (reprint fine).

73 de  
--  
-Bruce Bacon KE6GLS (bwb@triad.com)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 03:31:55 1995  
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 13:54:52 -0600  
Message-Id: <01HMULGE6EQA900WLH@ACAD.FANDM.EDU>  
From: CCS\_MAH@admin.fandm.edu (Mark Hemlick Ph. D.)

Subject: AC-4 diode help

Greetings to all:

After hearing a scratchy sound from the MS-4 and noticing a "funny" smell, I discovered that one of the rectifier diodes in my AC-4 power supply had disintegrated. It also looked like there were carbon deposits on the leads of most of the other rectifier diodes. The manual lists these diodes as 1N4005's. All other diodes conduct in one direction and neither the transformer nor cap's show any visible signs of damage. No melted insulation on the wiring either. I got some replacements but the original diodes look bigger. They are numbered as EDAL 8565. Is it possible that these are higher amperage diodes than the 1N4005, which is rated 1 amp, 600 V PIV? Is the manual wrong? In general, is it OK to use replacements with a higher current and/or voltage rating? Thanks in advance.

73 Mark KA3LFG

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:14:30 1995

Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 03:34:37 -0600

Message-Id: < Pine.3.89.9502100300.A24285-0100000@ozarks >

From: "C. Frank Gilmore" <fgilmore@ozarks.sgcl.lib.mo.us>

Subject: Re: AC-4 diode help

Mark I use 1.5 amp 1,000 PIV diodes when repairing AC-4 supplies. They don't cost that much more and provide a bit more gusto if a surge hits. In many of the older power supplies you will find diodes that were marginal at best but considering what was available vs cost that is why they put them in.

..

Sometimes there is no real reason for a diode to die...they just do. My first experience with this was with my first Hallicrafter HA-1 TO Keyer, bought new in '60. Two months of use and a diode failed....took out a resistor in the process....repaired and four months later the other diode in the PS failed....repaired and a few months later both went out again. I had used diodes from Hallicrafters....I put some big diodes in and they are still sitting there chugging along 35 years later (my gawd I didn't know I had owned that particular HA-1 that long, got it for my birthday in 60 which was 35 years ago yesterday...I gotta go sit in the corner and contemplate growing old.)

73, de Frank K0JPJ ex-W5PVX . . . .

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 11:35:09 1995

Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 08:32:52 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502101431.AA16989@pulsar.genrad.com>  
From: dcl@genrad.com (Deke C. Lightfoot)  
Subject: B&W 5100

hello all, I just was lucky enough to pick up a B&W 5100 that was stored and operated in a chicken coop. I can probably deal with the guana OK as long as the rig hasn't developed a permanent chirp. On the serious side, I've never worked on one of these beasts, and although the circuits seem pretty straight forward, I have an idea there were some strange things one has to know in the restoration to keep from making an ignorant and semi-fatal mistake. I've rejuvenated a number of similar class transmitters, so the hints I need would be specific to the 5100.

Thanks for any advice the net can give me on this.

For those who posted tips on the BC779 cleaning, thanks to all, I've decided to follow the unanimous decisions to leave the fungicide stuff where it lies.

73, Deke AA6DF dcl@genrad.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:09:25 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:57:12 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502082229.AA21319@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov>  
From: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov (Roy Morgan)  
Subject: BC-224 Manual - WHO WANTED?

Who wanted a BC-224 Manual?

--  
Roy --

Roy Morgan / Tech A-266 / NIST / Gaithersburg MD 20899  
(National Institute of Standards and Technology, formerly NBS)  
301-975-3254 Fax: 301-948-6213 Internet: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov

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From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 03:40:18 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 00:41:02 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502091844.A11720-0100000@hamp>  
From: Albert S Woodhull <aswNS@hamp.hampshire.edu>  
Subject: Re: Blue Glow from ARC-5

In reply to a post by Gregory Raven Redi <ravengre@eehp04.comm.mot.com> to the boatanchors list:

I don't believe the blue glow in your tubes is from parasitics, I think it is just a sign that the tube is a little gassy. It's been a while since I have run high power tube gear, but I remember the splotchy little spots of blue glow being common in a lot of high power tube circuits, including audio amplifiers.

I might be wrong, please tell me so, someone, if I am. I think this is one of those things that I may have "learned" from my high school ham buddies who didn't know much more than I did about it.

That doesn't mean you don't have to worry about parasitics. The ARC-5s were supposedly pretty bad for TVI. I hacked up a few of them in various ways, but I don't think I ever used one as a complete transmitter; by the late 50's when I got into radio the idea of a two stage vfo-pa transmitter was pretty universally regarded as a bad idea that would be chirpy on c.w. and drift in any mode.

The ARC-5 oscillator circuit was rugged and made of high quality components, though. I did a butcher job that would really upset some of today's aficionados of unmodified boatanchors. I hacksawed off the rear part of a 7-9.1 Mhz ARC-5 and threw away the front part except for the panel and dial mechanism, making a vfo that I originally used for 6 meter operation (8 mhz fundamental). Some years later I gutted the tube circuitry and used the tuned circuits with late 1960's vintage transistors to make a vfo to drive an old tube rig (a Gonset Commander) on all bands from 40 to 6 meters. I also used it as a standalone QRP cw rig at times. It was wonderfully stable, with all those big components and no heat generation by the active components.

73, Al N1AW

Albert S. Woodhull, Hampshire College, Amherst, MA  
awoodhull@hamp.hampshire.edu  
woodhull@shaysnet.com  
413-549-2962

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 13:42:08 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 11:08:43 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502101709.AA2922@hqsmtp.ops.3com.com>  
From: Joe Reda/HQ/3Com <Joe\_Red@3mail.3com.com>  
Subject: Re: Blue Glow from ARC-5

Has anyone noticed that 6AK5s all seem to glow blue around the elements?

Or have I just gotten a bunch of gassy tubes?

\JR KC6TXU

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 03:31:55 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 00:38:04 -0600  
Message-Id: <n1419775523.53879@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>  
From: "rohre" <rohre@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>  
Subject: Crystal modification (FT 243)

Numerous comments on moving crystals lead me to recall:

It is very important, when buying crystals new, to specify the circuit and certainly the capacitance the crystal will see, or it could be a little off. The old 243 "standard" circuit was 32 pf, while the newer crystals use 20 pf and others. For the newcomers, if any, the 243 are those larger brown crystals with spacing of pins such that two would plug into an octal socket, (what's that??), and the cases had screw on covers, as did the 241 type. The 243 side cover could be taken off, and the crystal was balanced on the raised lands of the pressure plates. There was the coil spring, bearing on the pressure plate. Now the skill was to load the crystal with soft lead pencil marks but not in the area where the lands were located. The pencil loading lowered the frequency.

The Comet or other cleanser grinding had to be done on a clean plate of glass, and in figure 8 patterns, evenly to both sides of the "rock". You would grind, counting your 8's and then, clean everything and put it back and test how far you had gone. If you kept a careful record you could kind of see how much grinding it would take to go a certain amount in frequency. It might not be a linear function, so I think some made a graph. Anyway, I remember that the trick was not to take "too much" off one rock!

Sometimes, if you got a chirp for your efforts, if you recleaned everything, or played with the pressure you could recover. Of course, I had one used 241 that chirped in every rig, and never did get better. I must remember to pat my PTO VFO and my rice box VFO's tonite! Gee, I had kind of forgotten crystal days!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 13:22:55 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 10:11:36 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502101637.AA103955@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu>  
From: rdkeys@csemail  
Subject: CWIST Friday Night Fist Function.

I will be lurking about on 3702R5 khz for the continuing saga of the CWIST Friday Night Fist Function. School is letting out at noon for

the kids around here, mine included, so I will be taking the afternoon off. If I get it all together, I will put on the BC-348/BC-375 combo on the Function tonight, just for the fun of it. It only gets out about 10 watts, due to my unfortunate lack of the original dynamotor, and subsequent use of an old Motorola dynamotor, but it worked fine on Field Day two years back. Unfortunately, my shack is rather tight, so I need to move the brace of RAL's out, temporarily to make OP CONSOLE room for the setup. But, if all goes well, CU THERE OM - 73 DE NA4G/Bob

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 05:54:29 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 19:05:21 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.07.9502081920.D19091-a100000@govonca>  
From: Brien Pepperdine <pepperb@gov.on.ca>  
Subject: Docs for NC-125

Hello, I was wondering if anyone has docs (manual, schematic) for a National NC-125 receiver that they could photocopy and send to me?

Recently acquired, it does seem to receive, but appears to be extremely out of alignment in that the AM broadcast stations seem to be about 200 up from where they are supposed to be (eg. 740 is at 1000), and then reappear again, lower down on the next band up. Needless to say, the ham bands are right off the range right now!

Thanks.

Brien  
VE3VAW  
Toronto

pepperb@gov.on.ca

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 14:21:00 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 11:14:08 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502101714.AA01973@kali>  
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>  
Subject: Drake 1-A receiver wanted

Hello, everyone...

One of the things I would like to have "eventually" is a Drake 1-A receiver. That's the first one they made (and there were two variations) and probably not common nowadays. So... I would like to buy one. PLEASE-- keep your eyes and ears open, if you hear of one for sale, let me know.

Email works: wallace@mc.com

or else: Andy Wallace  
P. O. Box 395  
Chelmsford, MA 01824

I would like one in NICE SHAPE and WORKING WELL if possible, but I'd like to hear of any for sale. I'm not in a rush so I won't pay "any" price, but I know what these go for and am willing to pay for it. Units in poorer condition may still interest me.

Keep this message on file and let me know what you have.

Thanks a lot!

--Andy

P.S. -- for those not familiar with the set: it's tube type, from about 1959, and stands up tall and thin compared to the 2-A or 2-B receivers. Round dial, with an S-meter in the front. Built in speaker. Black, of course!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 14:24:23 1995

Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 11:22:12 -0600

Message-Id: <950210122323.2040711d@LUNDY.NIAGARAC.ON.CA>

From: JR6205@lundy.niagarac.on.ca

Subject: drake 1A

i also would like a 1A -- any condition -- will resurrect!

JRUSSELL@lundy.niagarac.on.ca

the 2b i got for 20\$ needed abt 60\$ worth of work but its working like a charm ... heard good stuff on 80/40 already and it is in the shack studio a for the long haul

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:22:29 1995

Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:43:13 -0600

Message-Id: <9502081823.AA00607@kali>

From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>

Subject: Drake 2-CS or 2-CQ wanted

I should be receiving a Drake 2-C receiver next week (thanks Jeffrey Herman for reposting the rec.radio.swap!) and I would like to find a matching speaker for it. Either the 2-CQ (with Q-multiplier) or 2-CS (without) would do quite nicely. At this point, I don't even care much about condition. If you have one for sale, speak up.

Oh, and by the way, my last message which had "To: Padgett and everyone" has given me auto-snarl messages from several systems which think that

was a legit To: line. I won't do THAT again, at the top of the message body!

--Andy

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 03:26:38 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 00:47:07 -0600  
Message-Id: <199502092216.AA14386@mailstorm.dot.gov>  
From: Thomas Bryan <tbryan@mailstorm.dot.gov>  
Subject: Eddystone manual

Sorry about this message,

I accidentally killed my email from yesterday. Can the person who said they have a manual for the Eddystone 830 please send me another message.

Thanks,

Tom Bryan  
tbryan@mailstorm.dot.gov

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 03:22:49 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 00:32:05 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502091638.A5044-0100000@ozarks>  
From: "C. Frank Gilmore" <fgilmore@ozarks.sgcl.lib.mo.us>  
Subject: Re: ELDICO

There were several models of the 100....the last being the "F" model. You can generally tell an early one from one of the later ones by whether the oscilloscope tube has a bezel around it or is just sitting there looking through a hole!

...  
They were a very expensive transmitter and the 1000F amp equally so. The quality was above average.....but there were rigs like the Central Electronics 100V and 200V that offered so much more that Eldico finally sold them only to commercial users. I have seen some of the surplus ones that came through MARS and most are pretty sad.

Their last effort was to copy the S Line (well fairly closely) and market it to the military. The government both here and in other countries bought a lot of them because they were cheap....they are fairly common at hamfests for very low prices. I know a fellow who has three and trying to make one receiver and one transmitter work right out of the six pieces. He has been at it three years.

I had a 100F transmitter traded in but outside of checking it out and

cleaning it up before reselling it I can't remember much outstanding good or bad about it. Rather plain looking to cost so much.

One small firm made an effort to market an adaptor to make it transceive with a 75A4 but like other similar efforts it never was acceptable.

73, de Frank K0JPJ ex-W5PVX . . . - -

PS: If you look in some of the old Popular Electronics/Electronics Illustrated/and similar magazines that show base MARS stations or even mil comm centers you will see the Eldicos sitting around in all their glory!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 05:10:46 1995

Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 23:13:05 -0600

Message-ID: <Pine.3.87.9502081712.A27660-0100000@agora.irdrop.com>

From: Art Moe <artmoe@agora.rrdrop.com>

Subject: ELDICO

Could someone tell me about when the Eldico ssb100 was made (has 11 meters) also what might be a fair price working and not.

Thanks in advance.

art

1 2 3 4

73's

Arthur Moe

ARRL 1988

artmoe@agora.rdrop.com

Oregon City, Or

45-19-22 N 122-36-37 W CN85

At the end of the Oregon Trail

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 02:13:45 1995

Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 12:19:07 -0600

Message-Id: <199502091818.MAA21191@uro.theorch.com>

From: "MELUCAS, MARC P." <MELUCAS@wsmc-mis.af.mil>

Subject: Foothill

Greets, Gang-

I second the idea of a 2 meter freq for talk-in and intel. I, too will be noticeable with a crazed look on my face, as it has been several months since the last Foothill, and I haven't had my "fix"....

How about 144.10, with 144.15 as backup, as a "net" freq?? We could

go to another freq after we all show up, as I have noticed before that many groups hold a "net", and we may want a quiet freq for ourselves, if possible.

73 de Marc, KB0JPQ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 03:07:15 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 00:33:31 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502091309.A346-0100000@netcom5>  
From: paul Veltman <veltman@netcom.com>  
Subject: Re: Foothill

> How about 144.10, with 144.15 as backup, as a "net" freq?? We could  
> go to another freq after we all show up, as I have noticed before that many  
> groups hold a "net", and we may want a quiet freq for ourselves, if possible.

144.10 is fine with me. The only drawback is that, unless we are using the old boatanchory motorola handpacks, we will have to admit that sometimes the ole ricebox urge wins out. A devistating revelation for a "True BA-levier". ;-)

73,  
Paul WA6OKQ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 11:46:55 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 09:02:45 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950210095952.26361B-100000@access1.digex.net>  
From: Tony Stalls <rstalls@access.digex.net>  
Subject: Re: Foothill

On Fri, 10 Feb 1995, paul Veltman wrote:

> 144.10 is fine with me. The only drawback is that, unless we are using  
> the old boatanchory motorola handpacks, we will have to admit that  
> sometimes the ole ricebox urge wins out. A devistating revelation for a  
> "True BA-levier". ;-)

How about using PRC-6's? ;^)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 13:22:57 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 10:10:49 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502100839.A10869-0100000@netcom8>  
From: paul Veltman <veltman@netcom.com>  
Subject: Re: Foothill

On Fri, 10 Feb 1995 k1zat@bah.com wrote:

>  
> > > How about 144.10, with 144.15 as backup, as a "net" freq?? We could  
>  
> 144.10 is fine with me. The only drawback is that, unless we are using  
>  
> Something in the back of my mind says that these frequencies are  
> sacred cows but I dont recall the whole story; something like these  
> are not voice allocated frequencies (or maybe I'm dreaming).  
>  
> jd  
>  
>  
>

They are?? I can't think that a half dozen guys running around a flea market for an hour or two with milliwatt HTs would disturb anyone, but if there are serious objections, we'll be happy to move.

Paul

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 13:55:06 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 11:21:04 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502101719.AA3083@hqsmtp.ops.3com.com>  
From: Joe Reda/HQ/3Com <Joe\_Reda@3mail.3com.com>  
Subject: Re: Foothill

Ah . . . but perhaps we could still agree on a meeting place, 'cause some of us are non-VHF users . . .

\JR KC6TXU

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 14:43:00 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 09:55:03 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.05.9502101043.B23487-9100000@booz.bah.com>  
From: k1zat@bah.com  
Subject: Re: Foothill

> > How about 144.10, with 144.15 as backup, as a "net" freq?? We could  
>  
> 144.10 is fine with me. The only drawback is that, unless we are using

Something in the back of my mind says that these frequencies are sacred cows but I dont recall the whole story; something like these are not voice allocated frequencies (or maybe I'm dreaming).

jd

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 10:10:57 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 07:32:40 -0600  
Message-Id: <950210132849\_72227.1640\_EHM49-2@CompuServe.COM>  
From: DAVID STINSON AB5S/7 <72227.1640@compuserve.com>  
Subject: FOR TRADE LIST

TRADE/SWAP LIST  
I have the following items (BA and non-BA)  
available for trade. I would prefer  
trade over selling.

Non-BA:  
Two 4 MEG 72-pin SIMM RAM.  
Working pulls from a DELL 486D66.

U.S. Robotics 14.4 external fax  
modem w/ manuals.

MFJ-207 HF SWR Analyzer  
with manual. Makes antenna  
work a breeze!

BA:  
Black wrinkle finish 3.5-7.3 Mhz  
National HRO coil set. Cosmetically  
restored to EXCELLENT. The original  
tuning chart and cover are disintegrating  
with age and I have replaced them with  
good reproductions. The original chart  
and cover are included. Please note:  
I have no way of checking this set  
electrically, but it looks good.

BC-348-K project. Less dynamotor,  
antenna connector and dial light pot  
(of course!) but otherwise complete.  
Needs cosmetic work and filament  
work, but this is no "parter" or  
basket-case unit. A real good BA  
project for a classic rig very  
much in demand.  
Reproduction manual included.

BC-221-M Frequency Meter.  
Unmodified original. The unit  
used to put your BC-610, ART-13,

ARC-5 and other rigs on frequency and to monitor your AM transmission quality. No WW2-era station is complete without one. Cosmetically restored to EXCELLENT. Spare tubes and Bristo wrenches are in the Spare Parts compartment.

Electrically works FB.  
Tuning book and repro manual included, of course.

Hallicrafters S-38 (no suffix). Electrically works FB. Recently aligned.  
Paint scuffed at corners and bandspread dial needs touch-up, but all lettering good. Original/no mods.  
Red slide switchs present and work FB.  
Reproduction manual included.

Numerous common ARC-5 transmitters in varying conditions.

Gibson-Girl waterproof canvas bag.  
The bag the famous unit came in.  
Including parachute cord lanyard.  
Good, needs a little cleaning.

Contact: Dave Stinson AB5S/7  
72227.1640@compuserve.com  
(702)656-3926 evenings PST

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:45:46 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:49:19 -0600  
Message-Id: <950208223307\_71333.144\_DHQ38-2@CompuServe.COM>  
From: don merz <71333.144@compuserve.com>  
Subject: Gonset G-66 For Sale

For Sale

CONTACT: Don Merz, N3RHT: 47 Hazel Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15228.  
412-234-8819.  
71333.144@compuserve.com

Gonset G-66 mobile HF receiver covering 80-10 meters AM or CW. 1955 vintage. Handsome, chrome plated front panel with great styling. Looks very good and works. Receives sideband on the BFO okay. It has some scratches and scrapes on the sides and top but nothing really messy.

Comes with the AC supply that bolts on the rear. The supply works but no cap replacement has been done and all those wax caps look threatening to me. Partial manual photocopy. \$119

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:57:57 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 10:00:22 -0600  
Message-Id: <199502081600.JAA28589@atd.atd.ucar.EDU>  
From: owens@stout.atd.ucar.edu (Chip Owens)  
Subject: GR i

Hello Jack Taylor,

I have the GR-1650A manual. I'll be glad to run a photocopy of it if you still need it.

Chip Owens, NW00  
owens@stout.atd.ucar.edu

BTW, e-mail to your address bounced so using this route.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 04:01:03 1995  
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 13:01:30 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502091804.AA26348@csrvcs1.triad.com>  
From: bwb%csrvcs1.triad.com%triada.triad.com@triada.triad.com (Bruce Bacon)  
Subject: HQ120 Available

Greetings all,

An update regarding the BA Weekend thread. Looks like the RBM and RBS have found a new home. The Hammarlund HQ120 has done a U-turn and is once again available. As a reminder, the '120 has an electrical problem and needs the front panel refinished. It's all there, and includes the original cabinet. Might have a line on a new front panel as well. \$50.00 plus shipping. QTH is northern CA.

Regarding the March Foothill gathering - Does anyone on the list plan on securing a booth? I may have a few items for sale and would be interested in splitting the cost of the booth. Hmmmm...how to identify ourselves?? Maybe taping a 5U4 to our baseball cap? Kind of a spin-off of the cartoon light bulb...in a BA flavor.

Have further investigated the HQ180, and it looks like a new power transformer might be in order. Anyone have a spare they'd like to part with? Please e-mail direct to the address below. Using an <r> to reply has caused some ungodly bounces. Tnx es

73,

-Bruce Bacon KE6GLS (bwb@triad.com) Whose back is still aching

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 04:43:41 1995  
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 13:57:13 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502091503.AA23802@hpislwes.lvld.hp.com>  
From: Bill Standerfer <bills@hpislwes.lvld.hp.com>  
Subject: Re: Kevin's license upgrade

Tony Stalls <rstalls@access.digex.net> wrote:

>As the guys upgraded to General and abandoned the Novice band, crystals got  
>passed around. I had a handful, but stayed mostly on 40 meters. I tried  
>[...]

I guess I wasn't a novice long enough to reap the benefits of friends upgrading and passing on their old crystals. I've still got my original three, but they're now in the phone bands. :-)

>I had almost forgotten about tuning +/- the xtal frequency. I didn't have  
>a side tone with my J-38, so it was tough. I eventually got a DPST relay  
>and used it to simultaneously key both the transmitter and my Bud Code  
>Practice oscillator.

>

Sidetone? Who needs a sidetone? ;-) I didn't have a sidetone for quite some time. Instead, I had a huge power relay that I was keying my little Johnson Adventurer with and I just used the sound of that thing as my "sidetone". A bit like the old sounders used by the telegraphers in the Really Old Days. I seem to remember that the relay was 110VAC, so that meant a pretty nasty voltage on the key. Fortunately, I had (and still have) a nice Navy key with a cover over the contacts. It's a wonder we didn't electricute more novices back then. I guess that was good training for the old Model 19 Teletypes I later had with all the noise and 110 volts running all over. 12 volt supplies are for wimps!

>Thanks for reminding me of the good old days as a Novice and what it was  
>like making the best with limited allowable resources. It's not likely  
>that anybody will know how much fun that was ever again.

Ain't it the truth...

Bill

Bill Standerfer	*	Hewlett-Packard Company
CFI-A, IA, ME	*	VXI Systems Division
bills@lvld.hp.com	*	Loveland, CO 80539
Baron N222AB - KF0DJ - Pikes Peak 253	*	303-679-2378

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 05:58:37 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 19:37:12 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502081836.A201-0100000@mm1001.theporch.com>  
From: Kevin J Pease <kevin@mm1001.theporch.com>  
Subject: re: Kevin's license upgrade

Kevin J Pease  
WB0JZG Mt Juliet, TN.  
mm1001.theporch.com

On Wed, 8 Feb 1995, Tony Stalls wrote:

>  
> BTW, I bought some crystals from CW Crystals a while back and all of them  
> were off by a few Kc. He did include a bunch of schematics for tube  
> transmitters however. Does anybody else have experience with him? In  
> all fairness, it's a cottage industry and he's a nice guy.  
>  
Chances are good that he tested the crystals in a different circuit than  
what you were useing. If the capacitance and load impedance are not the  
same the crystal wil operate n a different frequency.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:06:35 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:50:11 -0600  
Message-Id: <199502082057.MAA26977@ix3.ix.netcom.com>  
From: jlockwd@ix.netcom.com (Jim Lockwood)  
Subject: re: Kevin's license upgrade

You wrote:

>  
>I used to lower the frequency on the old FT-243's for the MARS nets by  
>putting pencil marks on them.  
>

How'd you do that? The one time I tried bringing a 7293 crystal down to  
7290 by adding a pencil mark, it ended up going all the way down to DC.

Jim - km6nk

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:58:59 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:50:50 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502081725.AA00768@hpislwes.lvld.hp.com>  
From: Bill Standerfer <bills@hpislwes.lvld.hp.com>  
Subject: Re: Kevin's license upgrade

Tony, K4KY0 wrote:

>On Wed, 8 Feb 1995 n.mckie@genie.geis.com wrote:  
>  
>> Yes, we used to grind them using Comet Cleanser and water; then we got  
>> smart and used hydrogen flouride (sp?) and etched the crystals.  
>  
>I used to lower the frequency on the old FT-243's for the MARS nets by  
>putting pencil marks on them.

Oh, the memories are flooding back...

I only had 2 crystals for 40 (7173 and something else) and one for 15, so I was very careful with them. I carefully tried the pencil mark trick and grinding with a typing eraser, but never got them to move very far. I was too afraid of breaking the crystal and being left with 33% fewer frequencies to use.

That also brings to mind how little people search these days for a response when calling CQ. If you aren't dead on the transmit frequency, you may not be heard. When you're crystal controlled, you might find a response half way up the band. If you found someone calling CQ, you plugged in the rock closest to the right frequency and pounded away, hoping the other op would tune far enough. Great sport!

Bill

Bill Standerfer	*	Hewlett-Packard Company
CFI-A, IA, ME	*	VXI Systems Division
bills@lvld.hp.com	*	Loveland, CO 80539
Baron N222AB - KF0DJ - Pikes Peak 253	*	303-679-2378

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 09:22:44 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 06:15:27 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950209010821.23851D-100000@access4.digex.net>  
From: Tony Stalls <rstalls@access.digex.net>  
Subject: re: Kevin's license upgrade

On Wed, 8 Feb 1995, Kevin J Pease wrote:

```
> > BTW, I bought some crystals from CW Crystals a while back and all of them
> > were off by a few Kc. He did include a bunch of schematics for tube
> > transmitters however. Does anybody else have experience with him? In
> > all fairness, it's a cottage industry and he's a nice guy.
> >
> Chances are good that he tested the crystals in a different circuit than
> what you were useing. If the capacitance and load impedance are not the
> same the crystal wil operate n a different frequency.
```

Probably, but someone else has replied that theirs were off too. I just checked three of the ones I have handy and two are about .25 Kc. high, but one (and it would be the 3885) is 2 Kc. high.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 12:22:00 1995

Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 09:30:56 -0600

Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950210101602.26361D-100000@access1.digex.net>

From: Tony Stalls <rstalls@access.digex.net>

Subject: Re: Kevin's license upgrade

On Thu, 9 Feb 1995, Bill Standerfer wrote:

```
> Tony Stalls <rstalls@access.digex.net> wrote:
>
> >As the guys upgraded to General and abandoned the Novice band, crystals got
> >passed around. I had a handful, but stayed mostly on 40 meters. I tried
> >[...]
>
> I guess I wasn't a novice long enough to reap the benefits of friends upgrading
> and passing on their old crystals. I've still got my original three, but
> they're now in the phone bands. :-)
```

Hi Bill,

Waxing nostalgic AGAIN... That was the result of all the Novices and up and coming Novices knowing one another, both through the Nashville Amateur Radio Club or word of mouth. There was also a friendly competition going about who could get their General first. Most got their Technician tickets to save our calls "just in case" (another reason to eschew vanity calls!) and a few migrated to 6 meters (none of my bunch stayed for long...) as it was opening up fairly often back then. We had lots of folks who helped us along too. Particuarly with my being a natural-born klutz that was frequently putting out fires in the tank circuit, I have special fond memories of Al Jarratt, W4AQD, who put my rigs back together more than once.

I could go on, but I'll do all a favor and stop here...

Is it any wonder that I'm a BA person? ;^)

73,

Tony  
K4KY0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 03:29:03 1995

Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 13:35:50 -0600

Message-Id: <9502091937.AA10166@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov>

From: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov (Roy Morgan)

Subject: Re: March 11, Foothill Flea Market

>> Oh! are we feeling sorry for ourselves??? ; -)

>

>Yeah, actually...sorta. And jealous too! I sit here and read about  
>how you guys on either coast are constantly exposed to fleas and swaps  
>and hamfests. I'm absolutely convinced it has to do with population  
>density.

Well actually, it's simpler than that.

You see, the country would roll up like a poster if the edges weren't held down, so that's why the government has developed and placed most of the heavy quipment on the coasts.

--  
Roy --

Roy Morgan / Tech A-266 / NIST / Gaithersburg MD 20899  
(National Institute of Standards and Technology, formerly NBS)  
301-975-3254 Fax: 301-948-6213 Internet: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov

---

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 05:01:30 1995

Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 11:41:56 -0600

Message-Id: <9502091741.AA24818@unlinfo.unl.edu>

From: djw@unlinfo.unl.edu (daniel wright)

Subject: Re: March 11, Foothill Flea Market

Paul,

> A friend of mine over here  
> started a ham radio only swap, but it fizzled.  
> So, anyway, I think that you've hit on one of the big disadvantages of  
> living in a low population density area.:--)

Sorry to hear about the difficulty with swaps and fests.....  
It seems that most of the "action" is east of the Mississippi..eh?  
Yeah..you gotta take the good with the bad I guess. I kinda like it  
out here in Nebraska. You get four seasons..sometimes all in one  
day!! (;-> ...low "nut factor"..although there are some....  
I just KNOW that there are a lot of untapped BA resources out here.  
People with stuff stored in basements/attics,etc. Just finding them is  
the problem. The Scenic Designer at work is an antique/old stuff  
afficianado. He collects old magazines,cards,etc.....has a barn full  
of stuff....goes to all the auctions/estate sales,whatever under the  
guise of "working on props and set designs" so he gets out a lot. I  
have purchased old QSTs and 73s,etc from him. I got a 1937 ARRL  
handbook from him in excellent condition. He thinks though,that  
anything old is automatically worth it's weight in gold! He found an  
old QSL card collection from an OM in a little town in southern  
Nebraska that had...oh must've been several hundred cards dating from  
about the '40's to the middle '60's. I think he wanted \$75.00 for the  
lot and I told him "no thanks"!!! So anyhoo...if I ever get enough  
time,I'm gonna start looking around these small Nebraska towns to see  
what I can come up with.....!

73 de Dan -- WA0JRD ..

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 05:12:27 1995  
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 10:46:36 -0600  
Message-Id: <199502091324.FAA23085@ix2.ix.netcom.com>  
From: jlockwd@ix.netcom.com (Jim Lockwood)  
Subject: Re: March 11, Foothill Flea Market

You wrote:

>  
>Maybe we should pick a certain area to meet? I'll be wearing a badge  
that  
>prominently displays my call sign and be wearing a wild-eyed  
acquisitional look  
>on my face . . .  
>

May I suggest that in addition to a common meeting area, that a 2M  
simplex frequency be chosen for talk-in?

73,

Jim - km6nk

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:01:21 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 19:02:17 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502081622.A22598-0100000@netcom3>  
From: paul Veltman <veltman@netcom.com>  
Subject: Re: March 11, Foothill Flea Market

Dan,

> Oh! So I'm not invited, eh??...(>

Oh! are we feeling sorry for ourselves??? ;-)  
Sure, you're invited. It's probably closer for you to travel to Dayton than to SJ. The whole point of this exercise is to get an eyeball with the guys in the Silicon Valley and environs. A drive back to Ohio is a 4 day excursion each way, and an impossibility for a lot of us. Geez Loueeze, some of our product life cycles are shorter than a drive to Dayton.

>  
> Actually, last year we left at 6:00 am cd(?)t and arrived Dayton around  
> 11:00pm local.....then the rain ran us off and we left Saturday around  
> noon and got back to Lincoln around 2:00am...not a bad straight thru  
> drive if 'ya get down to "bidness" and don't stop much..(8-/.  
>  
Well, when you hit 50, you will find that it's harder to run for 24 hours straight than when you were in your 30s. I need my beauty sleep.

73

Paul WA6OKQ

Note: Those who say that ham radio doesn't lead in technology anymore should count all the call letter license plates in Silicon Valley parking lots.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:30:36 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:42:30 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502082211.AA03231@unlinfo.unl.edu>  
From: djw@unlinfo.unl.edu (daniel wright)  
Subject: Re: March 11, Foothill Flea Market

Paul again sez:

> Dan,  
> You are a few days drive closer to dayton than those of us out on the  
> Coast. You can go there with those guys. :-)

Oh! So I'm not invited, eh???(;>

> I thought of the Foothill  
> meet for those of us who find it impossible to take a week to go to ohio.  
>  
> 73  
> Paul WA6OKQ

Actually, last year we left at 6:00 am cd(?)t and arrived Dayton around 11:00pm local.....then the rain ran us off and we left Saturday around noon and got back to Lincoln around 2:00am...not a bad straight thru drive if 'ya get down to "bidness" and don't stop much..(8-/.  
Unfortunately I will be videotaping the Omaha Ballet Company for our statewide Public Television (look out Newt..(%-() network the week of Dayton this year...(8-<

73 de Dan -- WA0JRD ..

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:36:24 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:46:51 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502080936.A5924-0100000@netcom20>  
From: paul Veltman <veltman@netcom.com>  
Subject: Re: March 11, Foothill Flea Market

On Wed, 8 Feb 1995, Daniel Wright wrote:

>  
> Paul Sez:  
>  
> >Ok Sports Fans,  
> >Now that we've sort of tentatively agreed to try to get together at  
> >Foothill.....  
>  
> Hey! Hey!! Who's gonna come by Lincoln and pick me up, eh???(;->..  
>  
> 'Guess I'll just HAVE to go to the storm-watch training on Saturday  
> and the Fairbury,Ne. "Swapfest '95" on Sunday!  
> Rest assured I'll report on all the great BA finds at the 'fest...(8-/  
>  
> Toungle-in cheekily,  
> Dan -- WA0JRD ..

>  
>  
Dan,

You are a few days drive closer to dayton than those of us out on the Coast. You can go there with those guys. :-) I thought of the Foothill meet for those of us who find it impossible to take a week to go to ohio.

73  
Paul WA6OKQ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:51:38 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 09:23:00 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502081522.AA09214@unlinfo2.unl.edu>  
From: djw@unlinfo.unl.edu (Daniel Wright)  
Subject: Re: March 11, Foothill Flea Market

Paul Sez:

>Ok Sports Fans,  
>Now that we've sort of tentatively agreed to try to get together at  
>Foothill.....

Hey! Hey!! Who's gonna come by Lincoln and pick me up, eh???(;->..

'Guess I'll just HAVE to go to the storm-watch training on Saturday and the Fairbury,Ne. "Swapfest '95" on Sunday!  
Rest assured I'll report on all the great BA finds at the 'fest...(8-/

Toungle-in cheekily,  
Dan -- WA0JRD ..

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 12:39:41 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 09:05:07 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502101452.AA26011@uvs1.orl.mmc.com>  
From: padgett@tccslr.dnet.mmc.com (A. Padgett Peterson, P.E. Information Security)  
Subject: Re: March 11, Foothill Flea Market

>Yeah,actually...sorta. And jealous too! I sit here and read about  
>how you guys on either coast are constantly exposed to fleas and swaps  
>and hamfests. I'm absolutely convinced it has to do with population  
>density.

Right. Except for Tallahassee which was deliberately placed as far from anywhere as possible, Florida was settled along the coasts where everything metal returns to nature in a few years. In the fifties and sixites (before Disney) Orlando being 50 miles inland was just a wide spot in US 441 and

Gatorland was the big (and struggling) attraction.

As a consequence, just about everything over thirty years old, has been imported by newcomers who brought them from wherever they came from.

For both the automobile and the boatanchor hobby, it would seem as if Dayton, Ohio would be the primo location for discovery and the midwest in general the place to find treasures.

Not to say that the Bos-Wash urban belt is not a good place just as there are pockets out west (large military installations are always good since you have transient populations with excess disposable cash often spent on luxury technological items. Hence the key to Lost Wages is Nellis & the funny farm to the north).

Warmly,  
Padgett

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 14:32:38 1995

Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 09:57:07 -0600

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502100755.A10869-0100000@netcom8>

From: paul Veltman <veltman@netcom.com>

Subject: Re: March 11, Foothill Flea Market

> >

>

> May I suggest that in addition to a common meeting area, that a 2M  
> simplex frequency be chosen for talk-in?

>

Well, Well, Well, I was wondering when this thread would draw you out of the woodwork. Can you phenagle a business trip out here? Marc suggested 144.10 to meet, and then QSY to a more appropriate channel.

73

Paul WA6OKQ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 05:02:19 1995

Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 13:33:43 -0600

Message-Id: <9502092001.AA100393@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu>

From: rdkeys@csemail

Subject: Re: Marconi operators/wireless operators

>

> There was a two-hour documentary about the Titanic on the A&E cable  
> channel last week. The radio operator was referred to as both the  
> "wireless operator" and the "Marconi operator." Interesting...

>

Not exactly Boatanchor, but definitely Boatanchor History..... That show was excellent, although I had trouble reading what was supposed to be the spark messages sent from the Titanic. They were supposed to be sending CQD and SOS, but it did not sound like CQD, to me. Maybe the fellow sending for the documentary did not know the code very well. Also, the operator's shown tapping away at the key were in gross error. One NEVER taps a telegraph key, especially one keying 10-20 amperes on the primary of a spark set. One fingers it firmly and pumps on it. Tapping it lightly can cause the contacts to burn and stick.

There are pictures of the exact messages sent/received by the Russian Steamer ``Birma'', and the documentary showed that message several times.

As I understand it, in the early days, up till maybe the 1950's, communications were essentially contracted out to a particular wireless company. In the early days it was Marconi in Britain, and American Marconi (later to become RCA). These outfits supplied the operators, the equipment, the shore stations, the stationery upon which messages were written, associated forms such as message abstracting/charges forms, etc. Essentially, the shipping company bought the services of a radio company to use aboard ship. The radio companies provided the services of communications to the ships. Later, in the 20's, the ships bought the equipment, but still rented the services of the operators and the radio company to provide the communications.

Hence, ``wireless operator'' was a generic term that would apply to all wireless operators, regardless of which company owned them. And, ``Marconi operator'' meant that the operator was owned, lock, stock and telegraph key, by the Marconi company. The shipping company paid the operator's salary, and the operator signed aboard as ships company (in the early days I am not sure what department they were officially in, although currently they are in an aside off the Deck department and are classed as Deck Officers, without the full authority normal Deck officers have). The operator was responsible to the Captain only or Officer of the Watch, but all the paperwork/charges/message handling part of the job was strictly with the company that provided the services (e.g., RCA). I am not sure when such services generally began to fold, but my guess is after WWII or maybe 1960 or so, when RCA got out of the shipboard radio business. Maybe some of the other Boatanchorites with sea experience can fill us in on the details. My details are a bit sketchy here. All I have to go on are the below listed references, and a few other sketchy notes I have gotten over time.

There is a good writeup (several chapters) on the duties, reporting,

responsibilities, etc., of early wireless operators in Mary Texanna Loomis' ``Radio Operating and xxxxxxxx'' dating from 1924. It is a classic early radio textbook, worth reading.

There is a classic work by Streichartz, dating from WWII, titled something like ``Merchant Marine Radio Officers's Manual'' that also goes into great details for the WWII era. This was also standard reading from the era.

73/Bob/NA4G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 14:41:12 1995

Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 11:51:45 -0600

Message-Id: <"Macintosh \*/PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/"@MHS>

From: Don\_Burns-EPUR01@email.mot.com

Subject: Modifying Xtals

>There was the coil spring, bearing on the  
>pressure plate. Now the skill was to load the crystal with soft lead  
>pencilmarks but not in the area where the lands were located.

I can recall seeing an article in QST when I was a kid (yeah the 50's, guys) in which someone threaded a screw though the front plate of a FT243 and stuck a knob on the end of it. The result, a VFO with a very, very limited tuning range. Anybody remember this? Anyone do it?

--

Don Burns K4GHD <epur01@email.mot.com>

Plantation, FL

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 04:40:08 1995

Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 13:52:08 -0600

Message-Id: <9502092021.AA100480@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu>

From: rdkeys@csemail

Subject: Re: Museum report, etc...

R.D. Keys wrote.....

>

> I am a bit curious as to whether or not this could have been an  
> Alexanderson Alternator. The smallest one I have seen in pictures is  
> about 25 feet long and 10 feet high. The unit weighs in at typically  
> 10-100 tons. The rotor is typically about 5 feet in diameter and  
> runs at speeds from 10000-40000 rpm, to generate frequencies in the  
> range of 10khz to 150khz. I would doubt a practical Alexanderson  
> Alternator could be made with sufficient numbers of poles on the

> edge of the rotor with such a small diameter rotor.  
>  
> 73/Bob/NA4G/rdkeys@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu

I will have to check my old Bucher and other manuals for the exact rotor speed. My memory may have slipped and extra 0 into the speeds. The rotors had up to 600 poles each about 1/4 inch wide. Hence, the outer circumference would have been up to 150 inches or about 48 inches in diameter (4 feet). At 1 rps that would give 600hz or at 100 rps about 60000hz (60khz). 100 rps is 6000 rpm. At 120khz, that would be 12000 rpm. At 150khz that would be 15000 rpm with the same rotor.

Gee, I wonder what the automobile AC generator would do if spun at maybe 10000 rpm, and the diodes removed..... (:+}{}.....

Nah, but it might be fun to try.....

73/Bob/NA4G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:00:43 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:41:23 -0600  
Message-Id: <950208210445\_72227.1640\_EHM31-1@CompuServe.COM>  
From: David Stinson AB5S/7 <72227.1640@compuserve.com>  
Subject: Mystery Dynos

MYSTERY DYNOS

Can anyone tell me anything about  
these dynomotors?

DM-34  
DM-36  
PE-86

What equipment do they supply?

Thanks!

73 DE AB5S/7  
Dave Stinson  
Lost Wages, Nevada

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 04:48:18 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 01:36:09 -0600  
Message-Id: <F29H5438.F29H5448@mail.admin.wisc.edu>

From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu  
Subject: Novice Crystal Tricks

to: boatanchors@theporch.com

Greetings.

All of these references to all the tricks done with FT-243 rocks by Novices reminds me of one I used to pull.

At a hamfest I found a rock on 7152 KHz (a bit close to the old Novice band edge at 7150, but it fell inside). I got the rock cheap because not only was 7150 the band edge, but it was the home of a humongous signal from Radio Moscow! That signal was hairy enough to arc weld with, and most Novices steered well clear; after all, a 75 watt input CW rig didn't stand a chance of being heard there. Or did it?

I quickly discovered that there was a sizable group of stations that stayed snuggled up to Radio Moscow's carrier, and worked quite successfully. How? It's very simple.

They didn't fight Moscow; they USED it! All you had to do was turn off your beat oscillator, and let Radio Moscow's carrier act as a multimegawatt BFO! A number of stations were regulars in the territory from 1 to 5 KHz above Moscow, and they even attracted some DX there (probably hams who listened to Moscow, and noticed the CQ DX calls beating there). In a sense, you could say that RM was a big "DX beacon" for us, attracting stations that a puny 75 watts could not!

Actually, it was disappointing when RM pulled the big switch for the night around 0000 CST; you'd have to kick the BFO back on, and you were left to your own devices.

Tom, K9TA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:39:21 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:54:16 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502081308.A23117-0100000@mm1001.theporch.com>  
From: Kevin J Pease <kevin@mm1001.theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: old Rx s--300 vs. 50 ohm feed

Kevin J Pease  
WB0JZG Mt Juliet, TN.  
mm1001.theporch.com

On Wed, 8 Feb 1995, David Upton wrote:

> I suppose some might query using baluns and ferrites and the like on  
> BAs but it is possible to make baluns out of coax-- it just takes a lot more  
> cable.

I have a GPR-90 BA receiver that has a ferite balun built in so it must  
be ok to use one on a BA receiver.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 03:14:19 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 00:29:09 -0600  
Message-Id: <d09Z1Ac000000000@MHS>  
From: RICHARD\_HUMPHREY@hp5200.desk.hp.com  
Subject: Portable SW?

This isn't boatanchors exactly, but it is SW related, so please indulge me  
or at least moderate the flames!

I'm heading to Singapore next week and would like to have an AM/FM/SW receiver  
to fiddle with. The R-390A won't fit under the seat, and I shudder at the idea  
of trying to heave it into an overhead compartment!

There are some good transistor portables available. Question is, which ones  
are they? Any advice or experiences would be appreciated. Thanks!

Richard  
N6NAE  
(richard\_humphrey@hp5200.desk.hp.com)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 11:27:28 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 08:51:03 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502101434.AA25869@uvs1.orl.mmc.com>  
From: padgett@tccslr.dnet.mmc.com (A. Padgett Peterson, P.E. Information Security)  
Subject: RE: Portable SW?

> I'm heading to Singapore next week and would like to have an AM/FM/SW receiver  
>to fiddle with. The R-390A won't fit under the seat, and I shudder at the idea  
>of trying to heave it into an overhead compartment!

Well, being a fanatic I would recommend a 1980 Zenith TransOceanic model 7000  
with dual tuning meters and BFO (and would not mind acquiring one myself -  
hint). However and the main reason for this response, from somewhere in the  
back of my memory dredges the item that in Singapore it is illegal to possess  
receivers capable of picking up certain frequencies.

I would strongly suggest that you (or anyone travelling there) check this out  
since the country has some "interesting" punishments.

Warmly,  
Padgett

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 15:01:41 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 11:18:51 -0600  
Message-Id: <"Macintosh \*/PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/"@MHS>  
From: Don\_Burns-EPUR01@email.mot.com  
Subject: Re: Portable SW?

I have a little Sony ICF7600 (I think) and it does fine everywhere I go. You may want to wait until you get to S'pore and check out the stores in one of the multi-story malls on Orchard Road. But suggest you price out what you want ahead of time here beforehand. You won't necessarily find any bargains there but you will probably be overwhelmed by the different stuff available that you can't find here, especially a lot of stuff from National (Matsushita). The malls I am talking about are nearby the Dynasty hotel on Orchard Rd. If you are staying down in the Marina Square area just take the central subway north, a quick ride.

Another bit of advice: If you buy a new portable before you leave for S'pore, register it with U.S. customs when you leave. Without proof, an overzealous customs guy may try to charge you duty when you return if it looks new.  
Good Luck!

--  
Don Burns K4GHD <epur01@email.mot.com>  
Plantation, FL

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 03:46:40 1995  
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 12:49:09 -0600  
Message-Id: <01HMUAB09Z76CRL420@tntech.edu>  
From: cfm5723@tntech.edu (Conard Murray)  
Subject: PR057A and tower FS

Hello All!

I am posting this for a technical here in the EE dept. He has a Mosley PRO-57A still in the box for \$500 including shipping. He did open the box to see if all the parts were there. He also has a Rohn HDBX-48 48 foot free-standing tower he wants \$350 for, but this is a pick-up item. He lives in Cookeville, TN ... that's halfway between Nashville and Knoxville on I-40.

73 and thanks.... Keep 'em glowing....Conard WS4S

.....  
.....  
| Conard F.Murray WS4S | 615-372-3718  
office |  
| R&D Engineer, Electrical Engineering Department | 615-372-6172 fax  
|  
| Tennessee Tech University | cfm5723@tntech.edu  
|

| Cookeville, TN 38505  
ws4s@wa4uce.midtn.tn.usa |

.....

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:02:49 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:47:43 -0600  
Message-Id: <"d09XX'80000000000\*">@MHS>  
From: RICHARD\_HUMPHREY@HP5200.desk.hp.com  
Subject: RE: R388 for sale

Bruce (KE6GLS):  
I'll take the R388!

Sorry about the post to the list, but your address makes no sense here  
and I'm sending direct and to the list just in case.  
Richard  
N6NAE  
(richard\_humphrey@hp5200.desk.hp.com)  
916 785-3438 days

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 14:43:18 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 11:59:56 -0600  
Message-Id: <"Macintosh \*/PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/"@MHS>  
From: Scott\_Johnson-AZAX60@email.sps.mot.com  
Subject: RE>Re- Blue Glow from ARC-5

Reply to: RE>Re: Blue Glow from ARC-5  
In my experience, most beam power tubes will emit a slight argon (purple) glow  
which is usually modulated in concert with plate current swings. I have seen  
this in enough tubes to believe it is normal. After all, a plasma can exist at  
extremely low pressures (10-8 torr) and argon is not effectively pumped by the  
gettering materials in the tube.

73, Scott KC7BGE

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 04:03:08 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 01:08:53 -0600  
Message-Id: <F29F0232.F29F0247@mail.admin.wisc.edu>  
From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu  
Subject: Re. SP-600 dail slippage

to: boatanchors@theporch.com

For my money, this slippage is the biggest headache with the SP-600 series sets.

I was able to cure it in mine by doing the following:

Between the front panel and front of the chassis is an idler wheel that transmits motion from the main tuning shaft to the edge of the dial. That idler is arranged to "float", in order to make up for mechanical variation in the system. An S-shaped spring puts pressure on the idler, pushing it into contact with the dial edge and main tuning shaft. VERY CAREFULLY remove the spring with forceps. One end fits into a well drilled in the idler's floating mounting; pull it straight out of the well, and pull it free of its mount at the other end. BE ADVISED THAT THIS IS A VERY STRONG SPRING, AND IF YOU LOSE IT YOU'RE IN TROUBLE! BE VERY CAREFUL IN IT'S REMOVAL!

Once the spring is free, carefully expand it with pliers. The slippage is caused by the spring not pushing hard enough. After you've done so, put it back where you found it.

While it's out, you might wish to clean all of the wheel/idler/dial edge surfaces again, paying special attention to the groove in the idler.

Good Luck,

Mr. T. K9TA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 12:59:51 1995

Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 09:52:52 -0600

Message-Id: <m0rcxeR-000uhJC@twisto.eng.hou.compaq.com>

From: Dave=Sharp%Legal%Corp=Hou@bangate.compaq.com

Subject: re: Re: SP-600 slipping tuning

ok..ok. I have to speak up once and say no more on the SP-600 dial slipping issue:

Every time you give up you loose a little bit of yourself. Don't EVER give up. This is what sets amateurs aside from the average burger flipper (not that burger flipping is bad...)

If ONE of the SP600's ran smooth at one time then ALL of them can be made smooth. These units were noted for their smoothness. By now all the factory defects have probably been weeded out by father time.

In all this discussion I haven't heard a word about the rest of the dial system.

To digress a bit:

The knob is connected to a shaft. The shaft is connected to some sort of mechanical system. The mechanical system is connected to a gang tuning

capacitor. All of these pieces of the whole system have axis alignments and torque loads (like all good BA gear). If some piece is out of alignment then the torque load goes up and maybe the slippage. If a bearing on the tuning cap gets gummy from years of slow oxidation of the lubricants and dust gathering, then the torque goes up. Now maybe I'm stating the obvious but in all my years of troubleshooting most of the problems have been because folks overlooked the OBVIOUS. We get so good that we can think in terms of multi-way set associative write thru cache controllers but can't see the loads imposed on mechanical things in 3 axes. The tuning cap on the SP600 is fairly long so warpage could occur and alignment is important.

It would seem that the brass has a "natural surface" in the basic design and however it is (brass on brass, brass on steel, etc) it will malle down to its own lowest natural surface smoothness for the loads involved. Someone mentioned stretching the pressure spring - great idea IF you want to increase the pressure. The metal should respond by getting smoother and slipping more later. What you \*REALLY\* have to find are the mechanical torque loads due to friction and mis-alignment and correct any strangenesses there. Now in all BA's there is some wear and this can cause slippage. The spring stretch is the right solution for that - You just have to be sure you have wear in the right places. I know it's a pain, but if you're gonna do it - do it RIGHT.

This basic-science view holds for virtually every sort of problem. You just have to simplify simplify simplify. I used to hate all the time spent in understanding the details of resistors, caps, inductors, etc. until one day it all started making sense to me. The fancy stuff is just a LOT of the basic stuff nicely combined. We get a couple of million transistors on a chip but they are still just transistors.

Like someone said "The more things chance, the more they stay the same" - not everyone here speaks French.

Dave  
Houston TX  
Ex- WA9RRJ, KL7USA, WL7ETW, WVMC

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 14:37:17 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 11:21:38 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502101719.AA3092@hqsmtp.ops.3com.com>  
From: Joe Reda/HQ/3Com <Joe\_Reda@3mail.3com.com>  
Subject: re: Re: SP-600 slipping tuning

Dave said:

>Every time you give up you lose a little bit of yourself. Don't EVER give up.  
>This is what sets amateurs aside from the average burger flipper (not that  
>burger flipping is bad...)

And let me tell you, this is prime advice for anyone that would own an HRO-500! It took me over a year of off-and-on troubleshooting (a half-hour here, a half-hour there), but after a while I became determined that no radio was gonna get the best of me, and I finally won out. I'm now convinced that persistence and determination are two of the most important tools we can use.

\JR KC6TXU

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 11:29:48 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 08:49:03 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502101448.AA20771@kahuna.math.hawaii.edu>  
From: jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu (Jeffrey Herman)  
Subject: rec.radio.swap (Attention Bob Keys!)

Here's one for Bob:

>From: HMGNSBRG@ix.netcom.com (Howard Ginsberg)  
>Subject: 4 Sale - RCA 50kW AM Transmitter (BTA-50L)  
>Real old.  
>Ampliphase.  
>As-is.  
>Asking \$15,000.  
>Fair-Good Condition with all iron and manuals.  
>This is a serious post!

Jeff NH6IL

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 03:23:57 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 00:30:40 -0600  
Message-Id: <199502092009.NAA04909@atd.atd.ucar.EDU>  
From: owens@stout.atd.ucar.edu (Chip Owens)  
Subject: RF Signal Generators

Hello!

Regarding RF generators...I have had both URM-25 and HP606 generators. The URM-25 is more compact and possibly more rugged but on the down side does not have a very clean output spectrum. The output attenuator jumps in steps of 20dB if I remember correctly.

The HP606 is larger, heavier, and generates plenty of heat. (Hey, it qualifies as a boatanchor doesn't it?) But the output attenuator goes in steps of 10dB and is generally much more straightforward to use.

I eventually sold the URM-25 and kept the HP606. If you have a choice try for a HP606B. They have an uncalibrated output jack that is very handy for plugging in your frequency counter. I believe that the power supply is solid-state??? the 606A uses several tubes in parallel as series pass elements in the high voltage supply-they do get warm! The output spectrum is very clean.

Beware! Tucker advertises HP606 generators, the A model. But the photo they show in their ad is for the more desireable B model. Buyer beware!

Chip Owens, NW00

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:38:54 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:40:41 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.SGI.3.90.950208120339.16442B-100000@umbc7.umbc.edu>  
From: Bill Robie <robie@umbc.edu>  
Subject: Re: Rockets and Telephones

On Wed, 8 Feb 1995, Az0th wrote:

> Hi jeff,  
>  
> >Ohmygosh - you mean you used the finger-stop on the telephone  
> as an antenna post, thereby effectively using the telephone  
> lines as an antenna?  
>  
> Yup. It may have been a suggestion from my uncle (Corbet Sigmon,  
> a custom knifesmith of some repute) or been arrived at through  
> extensive trial-and-error testing. [...]

I believe, though, that this was suggested in the instruction sheet that came with the radio. I had one of the much-discussed rocket radios when I was in the second grade (it may have been a gift, but my vague recollection is that it was one of the many things I got for mailing off two box tops and \$.50). I recall also clipping the antenna to the telephone finger stop, but suspect that neither I, nor anyone in my family, would have been likely to figure out on our own that it would tie in to the telephone lines as an antenna.

BR

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:50:12 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:41:58 -0600  
Message-Id: <199502081809.NAA13317@netcom6.netcom.com>  
From: azoth@netcom.com (Az0th)  
Subject: Re: Rockets and Telephones

Hi ho,

>> Yup. It may have been a suggestion from my uncle (Corbet Sigmon,  
>> a custom knifesmith of some repute) or been arrived at through  
>> extensive trial-and-error testing. [...]

>I believe, though, that this was suggested in the instruction sheet  
>that came with the radio. I had one of the much-discussed rocket  
>radios when I was in the second grade (it may have been a gift, but  
>my vague recollection is that it was one of the many things I got  
>>for mailing off two box tops and \$.50). I recall also clipping the  
>antenna to the telephone finger stop, but suspect that neither I, nor  
>anyone in my family, would have been likely to figure out on our own  
>that it would tie in to the telephone lines as an antenna.

Mmmm. Don't recall any instructions.... Aforesaid uncle, though, had played around with a West Virginia variant of a crystal set for some time, though, using a selected piece of coal from the tip out behind my grandpa's general store as a detector. That's what makes me think that he may have offered suggestions, but I do remember clipping the rocket lead to anything that would stand still long enough for me to try it. ;-)

73 de RF B

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 05:49:26 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 10:12:15 -0600  
Message-Id: <199502081609.LAA25507@Shiva.COM>  
From: John Shriver <jas@shiva.com>  
Subject: Signal Generators

I have a Heath laboratory grade signal generator (IG-48???. Reasonable, cheap (\$10). However, don't trust the calibration of any signal generator, always use a frequency counter to see what it's putting out. All you need is a signal generator that drifts slowly enough that you can get the alignment done.

Also, when adjusting a LO (tracking), just use the counter directly. All you need to know is whether the LO is one IF above or below the tuned frequency. Much more precise way of working.

Unfortunately, portable frequency counters are the one piece of test gear that is consistently pricey at Ham fleas. I finally broke down and paid about \$50 for a GenRad 1192, rated to 32 MHz, mine hits about 38 MHz. It's all DTL chips inside, if it dies it's completely

irreparable. Anything better is at least \$100!

You can get rack-mount HP counters for cheap at fleas, even with super-stable crystal ovens. You need a lot of space for one, but they work well. (Do avoid the tube DCU counters, the Beckman pigs. Just too primitive for practical use today.)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 05:50:03 1995

Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 10:08:45 -0600

Message-Id: <5B43F223B01@s1.xetron.com>

From: "Jack Giehl" <JACKG@s1.xetron.com>

Subject: Re: Signal Generators

Dear BA enthusiasts

Padgett was asking about signal generators.

I had been looking a long time for a decent signal generator. I needed a generator that had a calibrated output, and 450 kc to 500 Mc output. I needed the UHF capability for my 440 Mc. FM repeater and servicing VHF / UHF equipment.

I can't tell you the number of times I wanted to measure the 440 FM Motorola Mitrek receiver sensitivity but couldn't.

Then, as I was perusing the Cincinnati Hamfest in Sep of last year, there it was, an HP 8640A. It had an aftermarket digital readout installed in place of the analog, but other than that it was stock. The seller, who was local, offered a refund if it did not work properly. I bought it for \$450. I bought a manual from one of the companies that advertise in Nuts and Volts magazine.

The URM-25, HP 606 for HF, or HP 608 for VHF and UHF are also good generators in the \$100 to \$350 price range.

Jack

73,

=====

Jack, WB8BFS

jackg@xetron.com Loveland, Ohio (near Cincinnati)

"Peak the grid, dip the plate, and keep the fire in the wire."

=====

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:16:26 1995

Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:45:25 -0600

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502080836.A5924-0100000@netcom20>

From: paul Veltman <veltman@netcom.com>

Subject: Re: Signal Generators

> Would appreciate suggestions on what to look for (brand/model) in a General  
> purpose SG preferably covering BC-30 Mc.

Padgett,

There are a lot of good signal generators on the market. One of the critical features that I would look for in choosing one is the availability of a calibrated output level. I think that it is really critical for proper alignment.

73

Paul WA6OKQ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:41:24 1995

Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:55:06 -0600

Message-Id: <199502081702.MAA02623@altair.cs.unc.edu>

From: Nick England <nick@cs.unc.edu>

Subject: RE: Signal Generators

Lots of Heath/Knight/Eico/RCA/Leader etc. signal generators show up at hamfests for \$25 or less. This class of signal generator met the needs of lots of radio/TV repair shops which is why they are so common. They'll do fine for most hams too, I'd guess.

Chief drawbacks are lack of accuracy, lack of stability, and lack of calibrated output.

The good thing these days is that (as several have pointed out), the URM-25 and HP-606 lab quality signal generators are available for less than \$100 and they are accurate, stable, and have calibrated outputs. These may not make a tremendous difference for many ham projects, but if you can have lab quality gear for just a little more, it is really nice.

It is extremely helpful to have a digital freq counter to go with any of the above, but they are fairly cheap (I have an HP cntr with Nixie tubes to keep that vintage flavor)

regards,

Nick KD4CPL

(I really don't know how many cu.ft. of boatanchors I'm up to but I just counted about 250 rcvrs/xmtrs/xcvrs plus misc VF0s, phone patches, etc. - my wife says if I've got to go middle-age crazy, this is a relatively harmless way to go)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:59:34 1995

Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:43:57 -0600

Message-Id: <199502081846.MAA04456@zoom.bga.com>  
From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>  
Subject: Signal Generators

As A. Padgett Peterson, P.E. Information Security said  
>  
> All of the specs I am working with call for alignment  
> using a signal generator.  
> ps I know, I know, but when learned (pre-1963) it was Mc or Mcy not Mhz.  
>  
I go "period" on this---vintage tools for fixing vintage machines. My  
signal generator is a Hickock 191X radio service shop job from 1948,  
covers 125-120 "motorcycles" (yes, I use period terminology, too). What  
makes it desirable is that it has an internal 100Kc/1Mc crystal  
oscillator. Cost \$10 with a bad power cord, some bad paper caps, and a  
dirty face at a hamfest.  
Almost anything that sings RF at IF and tuning band frequencies, and  
has some sort of control on the output and enough shielding that more  
signal is injected from the dummy antenna than from the RFI the thing  
generates---will do on the "generator" side. You'll need to calibrate  
whatever you have, and check it regularly---every time you use it, if  
you aren't using it daily.

A lot of people like to use frequency counters for setting the local  
oscillator. I don't have a counter, but don't miss having one, either.  
A rice radio with a PLL front end can serve to "hear" the LO.

Any piece of test equipment you have needs to be calibrated---checks  
against WWV are good for this---and having a crystal that is set to WWV  
to "whistle stop" against is a big plus.

--

\*\*\*\*\*  
Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com  
\*\*\*\*\*

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 10:21:25 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 06:12:54 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502100710.A9464-0100000@indy1>  
From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indynet.indy.net>  
Subject: Re: Signal Generators

On Wed, 8 Feb 1995, John Shriver wrote:

> However, don't trust the calibration of any

> signal generator, always use a frequency counter to see what it's  
> putting out.  
[...]  
> Unfortunately, portable frequency counters are the one peice of test  
> gear that is consistently pricey at Ham fleas. I finally broke down  
> and paid about \$50 for a GenRad 1192 [...].

A much cheaper way if you don't mind taking the time to wire it up, is to use a one-IC counter; Intersil makes several nice ones. You have to add a couple of switches (range & function), crystal, a (multiplexed in the IC) led display, some DC-blocking on the input, a handful of resistors and a power supply, but it's straightforward; I built one and most of the "works" are on a very small PC board, done by direct-transfer resist. It's accurate and cheap--and mine is in a BA-proper black crackle die-cast box, with old-style knobs on the switches! (Sure, it's cheating--but it works!) Last time I checked, Digi-Key was selling the ICs and had all the other parts, too.

73,  
--Bobbi

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 14:44:46 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 11:22:53 -0600  
Message-Id: <199502101719.LAA17841@uro.theporch.com>  
From: "Stephen M. Linscott" <LINSBOT@ricevm1.rice.edu>  
Subject: Signal Generators

As many have mentioned, the URM-25 is an excellent choice for the BA shack. However, I got tired of cranking back and forth to align variable IFs in R390s, R392s, SX-115s, etc. A friend made me an offer I couldn't refuse on a WaveTek 178 "Programmable Waveform Synthesizer". Now I program both ends of the range, with appropriate output levels, and switch back and forth. I feel this is a proper use of solid state electronics, that is, to serve REAL radios! The only problem is, the 178 is smarter than I am! It covers 1 microHz to 50 mHz, generates sine, square, triangle, haversine, and havertriangle, with 8 digits of frequency precision. Sweeps linear or logarithmic over the entire range. I have it phase-locked to my Tracor 304C Rubidium Frequency Standard, so don't need a counter to check the output frequency! Talk about overkill! :-) But a keypad is no match for the feel of the knobs and dials on a URM-25, so guess which unit gets used for most jobs!

73 de Steve

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Steve Linscott, Divisional Consultant - Natural Sciences \*  
\* IS User Services Rice University, Houston, Texas \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 12:44:25 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 09:25:56 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950210092058.14946A-100000@ncrsun7>  
From: Kevin Anderson <anderson@ncrsun7.ncr.usace.army.mil>  
Subject: Singapore

Sorry to waste the bandwidth -- to the person wondering  
about radios in Singapore:

There is on the QRP-L list a subscriber who lives in  
Singapore. Daniel is his first name (I'm not sure of  
his last), and his e-mail address (at least a few months  
back) was asirene@ntuvax.ntu.ac.sg

Give him a call, and I hope he can help you. If you can't  
reach him that way, then I guess you'll have to CQ to  
QRP-L@netcom.com.

Cheers, Kevin, KB9IUA  
(who is tickled that his NR post generated a string of  
messages regarding xtals)

\*  
Kevin L. Anderson, CENCR-PD-W, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Rock Island District Office, Planning Div.-Waterway Systems  
Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004, USA phone:(309) 794-5586  
e-mail: anderson@ncrsun1.ncr.usace.army.mil  
\*  
Opinions expressed here are my own and do not represent the  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the Federal Government.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 14:56:17 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 11:50:56 -0600  
Message-Id: <199502101739.LAA19620@uro.theporch.com>  
From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>  
Subject: SP-600 drift (was slipping tuning)

I once had a SP-600JX, a magnificent looking receiver! Used it for awhile  
on HF teletype but even after hours of warm-up, it had a slight drift.  
Seems to me someone said the SP-600 had dissimilar metals in the tuning  
capacitor which caused variation in capacity vs. temperature. Has  
anyone here on the net noticed drift with their '600's?  
73 de Jack

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 04:13:43 1995  
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 12:39:43 -0600

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502091212.A25780-0100000@ozarks>  
From: "C. Frank Gilmore" <fgilmore@ozarks.sgcl.lib.mo.us>  
Subject: RE: SP-600 slipping tuning

Don't rough up that brass! Believe me you will perhaps get rid of the slipping but the tuning will be awful!

Two tricks that I used to use. I am not sure you can still buy it except from some big store like Newark...maybe Radio Shack has something similar... but there General Cement made a chemical taht was designed for rubber idler wheels and belts to give them a "tacky" quality that prevents slipping. It worked well on metal although had to be reapplied much more often.

Even better was a substance that was designed for slipping dial cords on radios. It was a mixture of beeswax and ? that came in a small stick. You just rubbed it on the surface and got a sticky residue. It worked wonders....again I think General Cement was the manufacturer. When I worked for Burstein-Applebee as a youngster we sold the daylights out of it.

I recall a fellow with a similar problem finding some soap that worked, but if he told me the brand I sure don't remember it. He said dry it was slightly sticky and he would just rub it across the surface.

Reason my alarm bells went off when you said roughing up the brass was because of the hours I spent using jewelers rouge and a Dremel tool removing the "roughage" a fellow had caused accidentally on a shaft.

73, de K0JPJ ex-W5PVX ...-.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 03:44:08 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 00:50:11 -0600  
Message-Id: <8A334B6.000400F8E8.uuout@freddy.supernet.ab.ca>  
From: shaun.merrigan@freddy.supernet.ab.ca (SHAUN MERRIGAN)  
Subject: SP-600 SLIPPING TUNI

KE> The tuning mechanism on my SP-600 is slipping very badly. The  
KE> slippage occurs both on the idler-to-idler interface, as well as on  
KE> the idler-to-dial interface. I have cleaned all mating surfaces with  
KE> alcohol, but the slippage still occurs. I have also adjusted the  
KE> tension of the hairspring that tensions the intermediate idler...no  
KE> joy.

KE> Has anyone tried roughing the brass surfaces up to increase the

KE> friction? Any other magic tricks?

Yep, I had this problem once. It took 10-15 cleanings with isopropyl alcohol on the the idler, the counterweight and the idler-to-dial before the slippage was eliminated. I would NOT attempt to roughen the any of the mating surface; you will destroy the silky smooth tuning feel that makes the SP600 unique. My advice, keep cleaning, and look for a contamination source. As a last resort, try using some trichloroethane (usually sold as "spot remover"for clothes , or if you know a photocopier tech, he/she could get you some) on the brass; you'll be surprised at what you pick up. CAUTION: trichloroethane needs to be used with care (gloves, and proper ventilation) and keep it off the aluminum chassis, as the reaction can produce a toxic gas. Don't use trichlor on the tuning dial itself; you'll probably remove the paint!

As I recall, I took a small standard blade screw driver to work the cleaning cloth into the idler groove (got lots of residue out of there). One last thing: don't do what I did (which caused the problem in the first place) and spray WD-40 into the on all the bushings in that area!!  
:) :).

Shaun P. Merrigan  
shaun.merrigan@freddy.supernet.ab.ca  
merrigan@nyquist.ee.ualberta.ca

2nd Year EE/University of Alberta  
"Resistance is Futile,  
Conductance is 1/Futile  
Susceptance is dangerous  
Admittance is out of the question"

\* RM 1.3 01775 \* First Law of Lab Work: Hot glass looks like COLD

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:58:56 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:58:30 -0600  
Message-Id: <950208211756\_72227.1640\_EHM31-2@CompuServe.COM>  
From: "David L. Stinson" <72227.1640@compuserve.com>  
Subject: Status: Goodies for Grabs

STATUS: Goodies for grabs.

Here's how many people have thrown their name in the hat for each lot:

6E5 Magic Eye: 12  
6U5 Magic Eye: 17  
Hallicrafters-marked 6C5: 4  
815 VHF Amp tube: 3  
3BP1 Scope CRT : 5  
Mixed 7-9 pin Minis : 7  
Mixed Compactron pulls : 6  
2051 Thyratrons: 1,342 (and if you believe \*that\*...)

Good luck to everyone. Shipping on all of this will run about \$2 on the individual tubes, \$3 on the small tube lots and the 3BP1. And if you want to throw-in an old ARC5 crystal or tube or piece/part, Saint Peter will put it on the good side of the book for ya... :>

David Stinson AB5S/7  
5041 N. Maverick St.  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89130

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 12:38:37 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 09:50:32 -0600  
Message-Id: <199502101550.IAA05547@atd.atd.ucar.EDU>  
From: owens@stout.atd.ucar.edu (Chip Owens)  
Subject: TO: Jack Taylor

Jack,

Having trouble with bounced mail to your mil mailbox.  
Your manual is on the way via first-class mail.

I'm looking for a manual for the RCA BTA-250M commercial AM broadcast transmitter. Perhaps you know someone who has one that could be copied. If not, don't worry about postage etc.

'73  
Chip Owens, NW00  
owens@stout.atd.ucar.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 03:24:58 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 00:27:41 -0600  
Message-Id: <199502100301.AA26256@cmack.b11.ingr.com>  
From: dlkerl@cmack.b11.ingr.com (Dan Kerl)

Subject: Re: W7FG Vintage Manuals

I just ordered and received a manual for a Hallicrafters S20R. Friendly guy, and get the phone number - 1-800-807-6146! It took about a week to come, and the repro quality was quite good.

Dan Kerl  
dlkerl@ingr.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 03:26:13 1995

Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 00:19:31 -0600

Message-Id: <199502100324.VAA18516@zoom.bga.com>

From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>

Subject: Re: W7FG Vintage Manuals

I finally got a call back from him tonight, after leaving another message. Evidently, his answering machine was broken, and he didn't get my phone number, even though I'd left it at the beginning and end of each message. Putting it in the middle solved the problem.

I have his Compuserve address, and am sending him the information on how to get onto the Boatanchors list, so we may have a new reader shortly.

--

\*\*\*\*\*

Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com

\*\*\*\*\*

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 12:43:27 1995

Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 09:40:51 -0600

Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950210102807.26361E-100000@access1.digex.net>

From: Tony Stalls <rstalls@access.digex.net>

Subject: Re: W7FG Vintage Manuals

On Fri, 10 Feb 1995, Jim Lockwood wrote:

> The schematic in the W7FG manual for my Galaxy V has been fairly  
> difficult to use. It was supplied as approximately 15 seperate 8.5x11  
> pages of sections of a much larger sheet of paper.

That's my primary complaint about the "partial reproduction" manuals I have bought from Fair Radio. At least W7FG's come bound. Fair's come as loose pages with the pieced-together schematics. For what they cost, I think that they could at least invest in one of those finger-type plastic binding machines.

In all fairness, the machines that can reproduce those big schematics are

probably too expensive for a home-based industry like W7FG manuals. I'm not so sympathetic about Fair Radio not at least sending those pages out.

> I've heard many many good things about W7FG manuals, notably the  
> friendliness of the fellow. So it's with some reluctance that I report  
> on what I'd consider to be a less than satisfactory product from the  
> guy. But that's what I've got.

I used to teach computer courses and we made up our own manuals using big collating Xerox machines and plastic binders. When you make up as few as two dozen at a time, little glitches occasionally come up that don't get picked up until after the fact.

I guess the bottom line is that nobody's perfect.

73,

Tony  
K4KY0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 10:06:26 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 07:15:49 -0600  
Message-Id: <950210131226\_72227.1640\_EHM49-1@CompuServe.COM>  
From: David Stinson <72227.1640@compuserve.com>  
Subject: WANTED LIST

#### WANTED LIST

I buy the following items for cash or will work out a trade.

#### ARC-5/SCR-274N receiver stuff:

Unmodified receivers other then single-antenna-post longwave units.  
Especially seeking three-antenna-posts longwave and .5-1.5 Mc.  
1.5-3.0 Mc units in recoverable or better condition.  
Unmodified 3-6 Mc units.  
Any racks, control boxes, spinner knobs or splines.

#### ARC-5/SCR-274N transmitter stuff:

The longwave .5-.8 and .8-1.3 Mc Navy transmitters in any condition.  
Also seeking 1.3-2.1 Mc Navy transmitters.

These units have an extra three-pin connector on the bottom left  
of the front panel.

SCR-274N units (usually unpainted aluminum with "BC-"  
markings). Rewired filaments or missing antenna relay OK  
but no chop jobs, please.

These are usually unpainted aluminum and are marked  
with "BC-" numbers.

Any racks, control boxes, phantom antennas,  
modulators or other accessories.

Always interested in rare/prototype/high freq ARC-5 things.

BC-348 stuff:

BC-348 "P" model, to complete my 348 collection.

Restorable or better condition.

Shock mounts, with or without power connector.

Need two DM-28 dynamotors complete with mounting chassis. Did someone throw all of these in the ocean?

TCS Stuff:

Need Antenna Loading roller coil with front panel mount from a junk transmitter or someone's homebrew antenna tuner (non-Collins OK).

Collins external antenna loading coil.

TV-7 Tube tester, complete with charts.

Thanks! 73 DE AB5S/7 David Stinson

5041 N. Maverick St.

Las Vegas, Nevada

89130

Reply: 72227.1640@compuserve.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 05:24:44 1995

Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 23:26:12 -0600

Message-Id: <m0rc00w-00060MC@aupair.cs.athabascau.ca>

From: tech@cs.athabascau.ca (Richard Loken)

Subject: What is an Eddystone 830

WA6OKQ says:

>An Eddystone is a really great receiver. I believe that it was made in the >UK by Marconi, the big test equipment manufacturer. A lot of people consider >it the Rolls of communications receivers. You don't see a lot of them >here because they were very expensive when they were new.

Eddystones came in all flavours just like Hallicrafters. I saw a general coverage Eddystone a few years ago that was just a 5 tube radio in a multiband box - like an S120.

There were a lot more Eddystones imported into Canada then into the USA.

Richard Loken VE6BSV, Systems Programmer - VMS : "...underneath those Athabasca University : tuques we wear, our heads Athabasca, Alberta Canada : are naked!"

\*\* tech@cs.athabascau.ca \*\*

: - Aurthor Black

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:23:42 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:46:03 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502080954.A5924-0100000@netcom20>  
From: paul Veltman <veltman@netcom.com>  
Subject: Re: What is an Eddystone 830

On Wed, 8 Feb 1995, Thomas Bryan wrote:

> Hello,  
>  
> I am trying to identify an Eddystone 830 reciver for a friend. Do anyone know  
> what it is?  
>  
> Tom Bryan  
> tbryan@mailstorm.dot.gov  
>  
An Eddystone is a really great receiver. I believe that it was made in the  
UK by Marconi, the big test equipment manufacturer. A lot of people consider  
it the Rolls of communications receivers. You don't see a lot of them  
here because they were very expensive when they were new.

73

Paul WA6OKQ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 06:26:35 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 18:55:55 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.88.9502081506.A25237-0100000@julian.uwo.ca>  
From: "p. irwin" <pirwin@julian.uwo.ca>  
Subject: Re: What is an Eddystone 830

On Wed, 8 Feb 1995, Thomas Bryan wrote:

> Hello,  
>  
> I am trying to identify an Eddystone 830 reciver for a friend. Do anyone know  
> what it is?  
>  
> Tom Bryan  
> tbryan@mailstorm.dot.gov  
>  
I believe that you can get information about Eddystone products from the  
Eddystone User Group

Eddystone User Group  
C/O Eddystone Radio Limited  
Alvechurch Road  
West Heath  
Birmingham B31 3PP

Phone: 021 475 2231  
Fax: 021 477 5224

I hope this is some help. I can't seem to keep the model numbers clear in my head right now, but I think the 830 is late 1950s and should be a really nice radio to use.

Peter.

---

[pirwin@julian.uwo.ca](mailto:pirwin@julian.uwo.ca)  
Peter Irwin

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 03:34:01 1995  
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 00:36:40 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502092023.AA02609@cruncher.math.hawaii.edu>  
From: jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu  
Subject: 'Marconi Operators' - Yuck.

Tony Stalls wrote:

``There was a two-hour documentary about the Titanic on the A&E cable channel last week. The radio operator was referred to as both the "wireless operator" and the "Marconi operator." Interesting...''

Ah yes, the ``Marconi Operator''. My stomach churns at hearing that phrase. Let me explain. I'm reading a book about the history of maritime radio comms, CONTACT AT SEA, by Peter Schroeder.

Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company had more than a monopoly on maritime comms - a strangle hold would be a more correct description. It started in 1899 - SS St. Paul (US) was the first Marconi-equipped ship.

What follows are my own words mixed with excerpts from the book.

His business shrewdness was as sharp as his developmental instinct, and by 1903 he had personally directed the construction of 48 coastal stations in the US, Britain, Canada, and elsewhere. He had stations on 32 ships.

The story goes on - he sensed that the production of equipment alone would not insure his continued preeminence in the field of wireless. He not only produced equipment but expanded into the area of operation. It was his policy to organize his own wireless service - installing its equipment on lease in ships and shore stations, providing operators trained in the "Marconi tradition," and setting up shore stations on the major trade routes of the world. "With uniform control, confusion was prevented and the service brought to the highest pitch of usefulness." He acquired most of the patent rights registered in Great Britain as well as exclusive rights to patents registered in many other countries.

By 1913 some 686 ships of all registries were under his wireless control, and by the end of 1915 over 400 US ships fell in this category.

Here's where he gets nasty: A contract was made between him and British Lloyds in which only Marconi equipment and operators would be allowed on British flag ships \*AND\* that no communications would be carried on with non-Marconi stations. This non-comm policy was to apply to subsidiaries as well, and on a worldwide basis.

What resulted was jamming of non-Marconi transmissions leading to prodigal anarchy on the maritime wavelengths; safety of life at sea was endangered due to all the commotions. Wireless found itself in a "...poor, nasty, brutish" situation.

Harlow writes: "Marconi considered itself entitled to a monopoly, and fancying that it could, by a system of non-intercourse and interference, drive competitors out of business, had placed British operators who would obey orders in all its ships and stations... These men had strict orders in all its ships and stations to hold no converse with and receive no messages save the distress call from operators employed by other countries. An absurd and ugly situation thus developed, for other companies took the cue and retaliated in kind. Marconi operators would give no news of dangerous derelicts, no storm warnings to alien vessels; if they heard another company sending, they would often 'lay a book on the key' and blast out the other fellow's signals... Marconi operators were even ordered to work against their own vessels; to deliver to the Captain no messages other than Marconi unless he specifically demanded those from a certain other other vessel..."

<to be continued>

Jeff NH6IL (ex NMO maritime CW op)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Feb 10 11:33:28 1995

Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 08:16:55 -0600

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502100932.B2422-0100000@hamp>

From: Albert S Woodhull <aswNS@hamp.hampshire.edu>  
Subject: Re: 'Marconi Operators' - Yuck.

On Fri, 10 Feb 1995 jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu wrote:

> Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company had more than a monopoly on  
> maritime comms - a strangle hold would be a more correct description.

I recommend the late Hugh Aitken's book, From Syntony to Spark (something like that). It describes Marconi as much more of an entrepreneur than a scientist, in continual conflict with others who did more to advance the art technically but didn't have as much skill in business.

73, Al N1AW  
Albert S. Woodhull, Hampshire College, Amherst, MA  
awoodhull@hamp.hampshire.edu  
woodhull@shaysnet.com  
413-549-2962